

Legal Notice

Comprehensive Five-Year Bond Review for Imerys Talc America, Inc. (Hard Rock Mining Operating Permit No. 00127)

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is conducting a comprehensive bond review for Operating Permit No. 00127 issued to Imerys Talc America, Inc (Imerys). Imerys' Sappington Mill facility and associated disturbances are located in Gallatin County, approximately 15 miles southwest of Three Forks, in Section 31 of Township 01 North, Range 01 West.

DEQ has determined that the current bonding level does not represent the present costs of compliance with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, administrative rules adopted thereunder, and the operating permit. DEQ is proposing a bond adjustment from \$202,175 to \$112,351. This amount reflects a decrease in the bond required for Operating Permit No. 00127, based upon the following changes: updated material inventories for ore stockpiles and chemical waste; the slurry system has been decommissioned and cleaned; and a revised strategy for disposing of remnant ore stockpiles at closure was approved as permit revision #20-002.

The procedure for adjusting bonds as a result of a comprehensive bond review is set forth in Section 82-4-338(3), MCA. The company and the public will have until December 4, 2020 to comment on the proposed bond decrease. DEQ will issue a final bond determination after the comment period has expired. The company, or any person with an interest that may be adversely affected by DEQ's final bond determination, may obtain a contested case hearing before the Board of Environmental Review. A written request for a hearing must be filed with DEQ within 30 days of the issuance of the final bond determination, stating the reason for the request.

Requests for copies of the bond calculation associated with the comprehensive bond review, and any related questions should be directed to Herb Rolfes, Operating Permit Section Supervisor, Hard Rock Mining Bureau, Department of Environmental Quality, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901, by telephone at (406) 444-3841 or by e-mail at hrolfes@mt.gov.